



MAJORITY REPORT.

Laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

The majority of the select committee on the Penitentiary respectfully report, that pursuant to the following order of the House of Delegates adopted on the 11th instant, viz: "Ordered, that the committee on the Penitentiary inquire into the affairs of that institution, and ascertain and report to this house its present condition, and for that purpose they be authorised to visit said institution, provided they do not absent themselves from the house, in the examination thereof, for a longer period than four days"—the committee repaired to Baltimore, and having discharged the duty assigned to them, as fully as the time designated in the order of the house would permit, they present the subjoined statement:

1. Officers of the Penitentiary.

These consist of 6 directors, 1 warden, 1 assistant warden, 1 clerk, 1 chaplain, 1 physician, 5 superintendents of workshops, 4 police officers, 8 wall guards, 1 messenger, 1 watchman, 1 matron, 2 agents—all of whose duties are fully detailed in the "Rules and Regulations for the government of the Maryland Penitentiary," submitted by the directors to the Governor, according to law, and a copy of which was also placed upon the desk of each of the members of the house, and which will require a confirmatory act of the Legislature, otherwise they cannot be enforced. Having carefully examined the Rules and Regulations, your committee submit the accompanying resolution relative thereto.

To the board of directors much credit is due for the able manner in which they have managed the affairs of the institution, and for the deep interest they have taken in the effectuation of the intentions of the Legislature in regard to its unfortunate inmates. Regarding the purposes of the Legislature in relation to the convicts as penal and reformatory rather than merely mercenary, the directors appear to have administered their trust with a primary regard to these great objects. Inculcating rigid discipline and implicit obedience, they have yet tempered the required severity of prison government by a humane attention to the health and